

CHAPTER 36

MOTION TO POSTPONE TO A CERTAIN TIME OR DEFINITELY

See also Sec. 187, *List of Motions, particularly Par. 20; and Sec. 361, Other Means of Preventing or Limiting Debate, particularly Par. 4.*

Sec. 365. Application of Motion to Postpone Definitely

~~The motion to postpone to a certain time may be applied only to main motions.~~ To permit it to be applied to privileged, incidental or subsidiary motions would be piling questions one on another, which is not allowed, and the same result may be accomplished more simply by voting down such subsidiary motions and renewing them at a later time if desired. A question of privilege, being a main question, is subject to postponement.

Sec. 366. Precedence of Motion to Postpone Definitely

The motion to postpone to a certain time or definitely takes precedence over the motions to commit, amend and postpone indefinitely and main motions. It yields to all privileged and incidental motions, to the motion to lay on the table, the previous question, and motions to close, limit or extend the limits of debate.

Sec. 367. Only Pending Question May Be Postponed

1. ~~Business that is required by the rules to be attended to at a specified time or in a particular order cannot be~~

Sec. 365: Jefferson, Sec. XXXIII; Cushing, Secs. 168, 169, 180; Sturgis, p. 53; Hughes, Sec. 315; Robert's, pp. 150-160.

Sec. 366: Sturgis, p. 53; Cushing, Sec. 70a; N.Y. Manual (1948-49), p. 474; Robert's, p. 151.

~~postponed in advance to another time,~~ but when the specified time arrives, it may be postponed to a later time or order of business.

2. ~~It is not in order to postpone a class of business such as reports of committees.~~ However, as each question is announced or called for, it may be postponed or the rules may be suspended and the desired question be taken up.

3. After an order of the day or a question of privilege is before the house for action, its further consideration may be postponed, or any other subsidiary motion may be applied to it.

Sec. 368. Form of the Motion to Postpone Definitely

1. The usual form of the motion is "I move to postpone consideration (or further consideration) of (describing the question) until (stating the time)," or "I move that the consideration (or further consideration) of (describing the question) be postponed until (stating the time)."
2. The motion should specify either the hour or the order of business to which the question is to be postponed, as "at ten a.m.," or "following second reading" on a certain day.
3. If it is desired to set the question as a special order, the motion might be "I move that the question be postponed and made a special order for (stating the time)."

Sec. 367: Sturgis, pp. 53, 54.

Sec. 368: Sturgis, p. 53; Robert's, p. 159; Hughes, Sec. 317.